Merton College Chapel

Merton College was founded by Walter de Merton in 1264. Worship has been offered in the College Chapel for over seven hundred years. Today the Chapel is home to a lively and diverse community which continues this faithful offering of worship with daily services during term. Visitors are welcome to join members of the College at all our services.

The Chapel is part of the Church of England, within the worldwide Anglican Communion, and the Archbishop of Canterbury is the College’s Visitor. All those who are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us.

A Choral Foundation was established at Merton in 2008. The College Choir, directed by Benjamin Nicholas, sings on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Its patron is Peter Phillips, the founder and director of The Tallis Scholars. Girl choristers from a variety of local schools were admitted to the Choral Foundation in 2016, and normally sing Vespers on Mondays and Evensong on Wednesdays.

Members of College and Friends of the Choir can purchase the College Choir and Choristers’ recordings and Benjamin Nicholas’ organ discs at a discounted price from the Verger (jennifer.crompton@merton.ox.ac.uk). Copies are also available from the Porters’ Lodge and the online shop on the College website (www.merton.ox.ac.uk).
The Chapel supports a number of charities. Our collections this term will be given to Wolvercote Young People’s Club, a local charity engaging and supporting young people through dynamic and creative youth work.

On March 22—24 the College will hold its Passiontide Festival. *Passiontide at Merton* will include services and concerts in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Further information is available from Lizzie Casey, the Chapel Office & Choir Manager, and the College website.

Simon Jones  
Chaplain
HILARY TERM 2024

JANUARY

14  The Second Sunday of Epiphany (1st week)
    9.00am  Eucharist
    5.45pm  Epiphany Carol Service
    Preludes  La vierge et l’enfant  Messiaen
              Le verbe  Messiaen
              Les mages  Messiaen
    Introit  O magnum mysterium  Lauridsen
    Carols  The Gallery Carol  Gardner
            The Three Kings  Cornelius arr. Atkins
            Omnes de Saba  Lassus
            Tribus miraculis  Jackson
            A New Year Carol  Britten
            Benedicamus Domino  Warlock
    Hymns  30 (omit 2 & 3), ‘We three kings’, 466, 58,
          56 (omit *), 52
    Homily  The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones
            Chaplain
    Voluntary  Dieu parmi nous  Messiaen

15  Monday
    8.15am  Morning Prayer
    6.00pm  Choral Vespers
    Prelude  Christum wir sollen loben schon BWV 611
             JS Bach
    Responses  Plainsong
    Hymn  46
    Psalm  71
    Magnificat  Short Service  Gibbons
    Anthem  A New Year Carol  Britten
    Voluntary  Von Himmel hoch, da komm ich her  Zachau
16 Tuesday

8.15am Morning Prayer
12.30pm **Eucharist**
6.15pm **Choral Evensong**
  Prelude Landscape in Mist Op. 96 No. 2 *Karg-Elert*
  Responses *Byrd*
  Psalm 89.1–36
  Canticles *Sumsion* in G
  Anthem The Lamb *Tavener*
  Hymn 58
  Voluntary The Legend of the Mountain Op. 96 No. 2 *Karg-Elert*

17 Wednesday

*St Antony of Egypt* 8.15am Morning Prayer

6.15pm **Choral Evensong**
  Prelude Noël Nouvelet *Lloyd Webber*
  Responses *Byrd*
  Psalm 97, 98
  Canticles *Stanford* in B flat
  Anthem In the bleak midwinter *Darke*
  Hymn ‘As longs the deer’
  Voluntary God rest you merry, gentlemen *Lloyd Webber*

18 Thursday

*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* 8.15am Morning Prayer

6.15pm **Choral Evensong**
  Prelude Chorale Prelude on “Christe, redemptor omnium” *Parry*
  Responses *Byrd*
  Psalms 99, 100, 111
  Canticles Second Service *Byrd*
  Anthem See, see the word is incarnate *Gibbons*
  Hymn 51
  Voluntary Marche des Rois Mages *Dubois*
19  Friday

*St Wulfstan*  8.15am  Morning Prayer

*of Worcester*

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21  The Third Sunday of Epiphany (2nd week)

- **9.00am**  Eucharist
- **5.45pm**  Choral Evensong

  - Prelude  Pastorale BWV 590  *JS Bach*
  - Introit  Dormi Jesu  *Rubbra*
  - Responses  *Byrd*
  - Psalm  33.1-12
  - Canticles  Collegium Magdalenae Oxoniense  *Leighton*
  - Anthem  Ascribe unto the Lord  *Wesley*
  - Hymns  55, 48, 477
  - Preacher  The Revd Dr Mariama Ifode-Blease
    *Assistant Curate, St James’s, Piccadilly*
  - Voluntary  Vivo, energico ed agitato (Organ Sonata No. 2)  *Howells*

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22  Monday

- 8.15am  Morning Prayer
- **6.00pm**  Choral Vespers

  - Prelude  Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich  *Pachelbel*
  - Responses  *Plainsong*
  - Hymn  46
  - Psalm  138
  - Magnificat  Magnificat (Merton Service for Trebles)  
    *Frances-Hoad*
  - Anthem  Peace on earth  *Wallen*
  - Voluntary  Jesus Christus, unser Heiland BWV 688  *JS Bach*
23 Tuesday

8.15am  Morning Prayer
12.30pm  Eucharist
6.15pm  Choral Evensong

Prelude  Preludium Gibbons
Responses  Clucas
Psalm  145
Canticles  Magnificat (Merton Service) Ešenvalds
Nunc Dimittis Lukaszewski
Anthem  Almighty and everlasting God Gibbons
Hymn  483
Voluntary  Fantazia of foure parts Gibbons

24 Wednesday

St Francis  de Sales 8.15am  Morning Prayer
6.15pm  Choral Evensong

Prelude  Desseins éternels Messiaen
Responses  Clucas
Psalms  21, 29
Canticles  Noble in B minor
Anthem  How lovely are the messengers Mendelssohn
Hymn  221
Voluntary  Les anges Messiaen

25 The Conversion of St Paul  (Thursday)

8.15am  Morning Prayer
6.15pm  Choral Evensong

Prelude  Intermezzo (Organ Sonata No. 8) Rheinberger
Responses  Clucas
Psalm  119.41-56
Canticles  Rubbra in A flat
Anthem  Beati quorum via Stanford
Hymn  155
Voluntary  Fiat lux Dubois
26  Friday
*Ss Timothy & Titus*

**8.15am**  Morning Prayer

27  Saturday

**4.00pm**  **Choral Evensong** sung by James Allen Girls’ School

28  The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) (3rd week)

**9.00am**  Morning Prayer

**5.45pm**  **Choral Eucharist**

- Prelude: Improvisation on “Lumen ad revelationem gentium”
- Introit: *O nata lux*  *Tallis*
- Setting: Missa Rigensis  *Praulins*
- Psalm: 24
- Motet: *Senex puerum portabat a 4*  *Byrd*
- Canticle: Nunc Dimittis  *Lukaszewski*
- Hymns: 33 (omit*), ‘Angels from the realms of glory’, ‘New light has dawned’
- Preacher: The Revd Canon Peter Moger  *Sub Dean, Christ Church, Oxford*
- Voluntary: *Illuminare*  *Allain*

29  Monday

**8.15am**  Morning Prayer

**6.00pm**  **Choral Vespers**

- Prelude: *O lux beata Trinitatis*  *Scheidemann*
- Responses: *Plainsong*
- Hymn: ‘We bless you, Father, Lord of life’
- Psalm: 127
- Magnificat: Magnificat in C minor  *Dyson*
- Anthem: A grateful heart  *Plumstead*
- Voluntary: Praeludium in D minor  *Scheidt*
30 Tuesday
Charles, 8.15am Morning Prayer
King & martyr 12.30pm Eucharist
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude The Sun's Evensong Op. 96 No. 5 Karg-Elert
Responses Clucas
Psalms 134, 135
Canticles Oriel Service Bingham
Anthem O thou that art the light Jackson
Hymn 218
Voluntary Hymn to the Stars Op. 96 No. 7 Karg-Elert
9.30pm Messiaen’s La Nativité du Seigneur
with readings and prayer

31 Wednesday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot BWV 678 JS Bach
Responses Clucas
Psalms 136
Canticles Collegium Regale Howells
Anthem The spirit of the Lord Elgar
Hymn 342
Voluntary Marche héroïque Brewer

FEBRUARY
1 Thursday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Evening song Bairstow
Responses Clucas
Psalms 138, 140, 141
Canticles Brewer in D
Anthem How beautiful upon the mountains Stainer
Hymn 484
Voluntary Postlude in D Smart
2 Friday
   8.15am   Morning Prayer

4 The Second Sunday before Lent (4th week)
   9.00am   Eucharist
   5.45pm   Choral Evensong
   Prelude   Prelude in E flat major BWV 552i  JS Bach
   Introit  To thee, O Lord  Rachmaninov
   Responses  Clucas
   Psalm  65
   Canticles  St Paul’s Service  Howells
   Anthem   O be joyful  Walton
   Hymns  263 (omit*), 267, 427
   Preacher  The Rt Revd Dr Nicholas Chamberlain
             Bishop of Grantham
   Voluntary  Tanz-Toccata “I Love The Colourful World”
             Hakim

5 Monday
   8.15am   Morning Prayer
   6.00pm   Choral Vespers
   Prelude   Meine Seele erhebt den Herren  Weckmann
   Responses  Plainsong
   Hymn     ‘We bless you, Father, Lord of life’
   Psalm  4
   Magnificat  Fauxbourdons  Owens
   Anthem   Prayer of St Richard  Allain
   Voluntary  Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr  Buttstett
6 Tuesday
8.15am Morning Prayer
12.30pm Eucharist
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Preludium Byrd
Responses Ayleward
Psalms 9, 10
Canticles Magnificat Pärt
Nunc Dimittis Esquivel
Anthem Prevent us, O Lord Byrd
Hymn 240
Voluntary Pavana “The Earle of Salisbury” Byrd

7 Wednesday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Andante (Sonata in C# Minor) Harwood
Responses Ayleward
Psalms 11, 12, 13
Canticles Sumson in A
Anthem Save us, O Lord Bairstow
Hymn 239
Voluntary Chanson de Matin Elgar

8 Thursday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.15pm Choral Evensong
sung by the College Choir &
participants in the Merton Choral Day
Prelude Psalm Prelude Set 1 No 2 Howells
Responses Ayleward
Psalms 18
Canticles Stanford in A
Anthem Te lucis ante terminum Martin
Hymn 475
Voluntary Fanfare Whitlock
9 Friday
8.15am Morning Prayer

11 The Sunday next before Lent (5th week)
9.00am Morning Prayer
5.45pm Choral Eucharist
Prelude Livre d’Orgue Du Mage
Setting Messe cum jubilo Duruflé
Psalm 50.1-6
Motet O sacrum convivium Messiaen
Hymns 351, 271, 394
Preacher The Revd Luke Larner
Assistant Curate, St Paul’s, Bedford
Voluntary Improvisation sur le “Te Deum” Tournemire

12 Monday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Evening Prayer

13 Shrove Tuesday
8.15am Morning Prayer
12.30pm Eucharist
6.15pm Choral Evensong
and Commemoration of the Founder
and Benefactors of the College
Prelude Allabreve BWV 589 JS Bach
Introit Locus iste Bruckner
Responses Clucas
Psalm 146
Canticles Stanford in C
Anthem The Twelve Walton
Hymns 436, 333
Voluntary Paean Howells
14 Ash Wednesday
   8.15am Morning Prayer & Litany
   5.45pm **Choral Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes**
       Setting Mass for Four Voices *Byrd*
       Motets Miserere mei *Allegri*
                Civitas sancti tui *Byrd*
       Hymns 63, 383 (omit*)

15 Thursday
   8.15am Morning Prayer
   6.30pm Evening Prayer

16 Friday
   8.15am Morning Prayer

18 The First Sunday of Lent (6th week)
   9.00am **Eucharist**
   5.45pm **Choral Evensong**
       Prelude Improvisation on "Aus tiefer Not"
       Introit Hear my prayer *Purcell*
       Responses *Smith*
       Psalm 119.17-32
       Canticles *Jackson* in G
       Anthem The Wilderness *Wesley*
       Hymns 67, 353 (omit*), 252
       Preacher The Revd Lyndon Webb
               *Associate Chaplain*
       Voluntary Toccata and Fugue in D minor (Dorian)
               BWV 538 *JS Bach*
Monday

8.15am  Morning Prayer

6.00pm  **Choral Vespers**

- **Prelude**  
  *Christe, der du bist Tag und Licht*  
  *Scheidt*

- **Responses**  
  *Plainsong*

- **Hymn**  
  59

- **Psalm**  
  13

- **Magnificat**  
  *Primi toni*

- **Anthem**  
  *Teach me, O Lord*  
  *Byrd*

- **Voluntary**  
  *In nomine*  
  *Bull*

Tuesday

8.15am  Morning Prayer

12.30pm  **Eucharist**

6.15pm  **Choral Evensong**

- **Prelude**  
  *Canzon dopo l’Epistela*  
  *Frescobaldi*

- **Responses**  
  *Smith*

- **Psalms**  
  46, 49

- **Canticles**  
  *Magnificat quarti toni*  
  *Palestrina*

- **Anthem**  
  *Nunc Dimittis octavi toni*  
  *Torrentes*

- **Hymn**  
  74

- **Voluntary**  
  *Recercar dopo il Credo*  
  *Frescobaldi*

Wednesday

*Ember*

8.15am  Morning Prayer & Litany

*Day*

6.15pm  **Choral Evensong**

- **Prelude**  
  Voluntary in D Minor Op. 6 No. 1  
  *Stanley*

- **Responses**  
  *Byrd*

- **Psalms**  
  9, 28

- **Canticles**  
  *Short Service*  
  *Weelkes*

- **Anthem**  
  *Call to remembrance, O Lord*  
  *Farrant*

- **Hymn**  
  382

- **Voluntary**  
  *Praeludium in F# minor*  
  *Buxtehude*
22 Thursday
  8.15am  Morning Prayer
  6.15pm  Choral Evensong
         Prelude  Cornet voluntary in A minor  Blow
         Responses  Smith
         Psalms  137, 138, 142
         Canticles  Fifth Service  Tomkins
         Anthem  Out of the deep  Rutter
         Hymn  64
         Voluntary  Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir BWV686  JS Bach

23 Friday
  St Polycarp  8.15am  Morning Prayer
  of Smyrna  6.00pm  Roman Catholic Mass

25 The Second Sunday of Lent (7th week)
  9.00am  Morning Prayer
  5.45pm  Choral Eucharist
          followed by Chapel Supper
         Prelude  Allegro Assai (Organ Sonata No. 2)  Howells
         Setting  Mass for Double Choir  Martin
         Psalm  22.23-end
         Motet  Salvator mundi  Howells
         Hymns  376, 76, 461
         Address  Eve Poole OBE
          Writer and Interim CEO of the
          Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland
         Voluntary  Prelude and Fugue in B minor BWV 544  JS Bach
26 Monday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.00pm Choral Vespers
Prelude Pavan “Sr. Wm. Petre” Byrd
Responses Plainsong
Hymn 59
Psalm 74
Magnificat (Fauxbourdons) Moore
Anthem Te lucis ante terminum Tallis
Voluntary Galiardo “Sr. Wm. Petre” Byrd

27 Tuesday
George 8.15am Morning Prayer
Herbert, priest & poet 12.30pm Eucharist
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Preludium “I Love The Colourful World” Hakim
Responses Smith
Psalms 52, 53, 54
Canticles Short Service Hooper
Anthem The Call Randle
Hymn 456
Voluntary Rapid Growth and Decay Yablans

28 Wednesday
8.15am Morning Prayer
6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Toccata per l’Elevatione Frescobaldi
Responses Plainsong
Psalms 3, 51
Canticles Berkshire Service Archer
Anthem Litany to the Holy Spirit Hurford
Hymn 70
Voluntary Preludium and Fuga Op. 16 No. 3 Clara Schumann
29 Thursday

8.15am Morning Prayer

6.15pm Choral Evensong
Prelude Prelude Dyson
Responses Smith
Psalms 71
Canticles Dyson in F
Anthem Geistliches Lied Brahms
Hymn 75
Voluntary Postlude Dyson

MARCH

1 Friday

St David 8.15am Morning Prayer

3 The Third Sunday of Lent (8th week)

9.00am Eucharist

5.45pm Music and Readings for Lent
Prelude Quasi lento, tranquillo (Organ Sonata No. 2) Howells
Introit It was in that train Ferguson
Motets Salvator mundi Howells
Psalm 23 Howells
I heard a voice from heaven Howells
Crucifixus a 8 Lotti
Address Dr Cecilia Deane-Drummond

Director of the Laudato Si’ Institute, Oxford
Voluntary Fugue on “Ad nos, ad salutarem undam” Liszt
4  Monday
   8.15am  Morning Prayer
   6.00pm  **Choral Vespers**
   Prelude  Andante quasi allegretto  *Franck*
   Responses  *Plainsong*
   Hymn  59
   Psalm  79
   Magnificat  *Tonus peregrinus*
   Anthem  Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace  *Boyle*
   Voluntary  Christus, der uns selig macht BWV 620  
               *JS Bach*

5  Tuesday
   8.15am  Morning Prayer
   12.30pm  **Eucharist**
   6.15pm  **Choral Evensong**
   Prelude  Pavana “St Thomas Wake”  *Bull*
   Responses  *Martin*
   Psalms  61, 62, 64
   Canticles  Short Service  *Byrd*
   Anthem  In manus tuas  *Tallis*
   Hymn  337
   Voluntary  Galiardo Secundo “Mris Marye Brownlo”  
               *Byrd*

6  Wednesday
   8.15am  Morning Prayer
   6.15pm  **Choral Evensong**
   Prelude  Andante in E minor  *Wesley*
   Responses  *Smith*
   Psalms  36, 39
   Canticles  *Wood in D*
   Anthem  I love all beauteous things  *Weir*
   Hymn  ‘O love that wilt not let me go’
   Voluntary  Con moto maestoso (Sonata III)  *Mendelssohn*
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<td>Ss Perpetua, Felicity &amp; companions</td>
<td>6.15pm</td>
<td>Choral Evensong</td>
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<td>Like as the hart Howells</td>
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<td>Hymn</td>
<td>‘God of mercy and compassion’</td>
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EASTER VACATION

MARCH

11  Monday

6.00pm  Choral Vespers
Prelude  O Lamm Gottes unschuldig  Pachelbel
Responses  Plainsong
Hymn  59
Psalms  25
Magnificat  Octavi toni
Anthem  Brother James’s Air  Bain arr. Jacob
Voluntary  En forme de canon  Salomé

13  Wednesday

6.15pm  Choral Evensong
Prelude  Ach Herr, mein armen Sünder  Buxtehude
Responses  Smith
Psalms  52, 91
Canticles  Third Service  Moore
Anthem  Wash me throughly  Wesley
Hymn  414
Voluntary  Soll es sein  Sweelinck

16  Saturday

6.00pm  Choral Evensong
  for the College Gaudy
Prelude  An Wasserflüssen Babylon BWV 653  JS Bach
Introit  Call to remembrance  Farrant
Responses  Smith
Psalms  140, 141, 142
Canticles  Collegium Regale  Howells
Anthem  A New Song  MacMillan
Hymns  377, 333
Voluntary  Allegro giocoso (Sept Improvisations)  Saint-Saëns
17  The Fifth Sunday of Lent
   9.00am   Eucharist

Regular choral services resume at 5.45pm on Sunday 21 April
PASSIONTIDE AT MERTON
22—24 March 2024

22    Friday
1.15pm  Organ Recital: Matthew Martin plays Bach

5.00pm  Choral Evensong
Prelude  O Gott du frommer Gott  Smyth
Responses  Martin
Psalm  31
Canticles  Magnificat  Pärt
           Nunc Dimitiss  Lukaszewski
Anthem  Svyati  Tavener
Hymn  84
Voluntary  Toccata and Fugue in D minor BWV 565  JS Bach

7.30pm  The Cardinal’s Musick
Spem in alium

23    Saturday
11.00am  Matins (Choristers & Lower Voices)
Prelude  Chorale Prelude on “Rockingham”  Leighton
Responses  Byrd
Canticles  The Lamentation  Bairstow
           Benedictus in C  Stanford
Anthem  Wash me throughly  Wesley
Hymn  83
Voluntary  Improvisation (Organ Sonata No. 2)  Reger

2.00pm  Biber’s Rosary Sonatas
Bojan Cicic, violin

5.30pm  Organ Recital:
Howells’ Second Organ Sonata
6.00pm  **Choral Evensong**
- **Introit**: It was in that train  *Ferguson*
- **Responses**: Martin
- **Psalms**: 128, 129, 130
- **Canticles**: Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis in A flat  *Rubbra*
- **Anthem**: Requiem  *Howells*
- **Hymns**: 439, 79, 95
- **Voluntary**: Psalm-Prelude Set 1, No. 3  *Howells*

9.30pm  **Compline**

24  **Palm Sunday**
10.30am  **Procession and Choral Eucharist of the Lord's Passion**
- **Introit**: Hosanna to the Son of David  *Gibbons*
- **Setting**: Missa Sancti Dominici  *Rubbra*
- **Psalm**: 31.9-16
- **Motets**: Ave verum corpus  *Byrd*
- **Hymns**: 509, 511, 94, 90, 86, ‘Lift high the cross’
- **Voluntary**: Fugue sur le nom d’Alain Op. 7  *Duruflé*

5.00pm  **Passio  *Arvo Pärt***
- Merton College Choir
- Oxford Contemporary Sinfonia
- Benjamin Nicholas  _conductor_
FRIENDS OF THE CHOIR
OF MERTON COLLEGE

The Friends of the Choir of Merton College support the current and future activities of the College Choir and the Girl Choristers.

Friends receive regular newsletters from the Organist and Director of Music, reduced ticket prices on selected concerts and invitations to Friends’ events.

For further details, contact the Chapel Office & Choir Manager, (chapel.administrator@merton.ox.ac.uk), or go to the website: https://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/chapel-choir/friends-of-the-choir.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Sundays
9.00am  College Eucharist / Morning Prayer  
followed by breakfast in Hall
5.45pm  Choral Evensong / Choral Eucharist  
followed by drinks in the Ante-Chapel

Weekdays
8.15am  Morning Prayer (Monday to Friday)
12.30pm Eucharist (Tuesday) followed by lunch
6.00pm  Choral Vespers (Monday)
6.15pm  Choral Evensong (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
CHAPEL TEAM

Chaplain
The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones

Associate Chaplain
The Revd Lyndon Webb

Reed Rubin Organist and Director of Music
Benjamin Nicholas

Organ Scholars
Owen Chan & François Cloete

Student Chapel Officers
George Adams, Tom Allen, Antonia Anstatt, Benjamin Atkinson, Alex Brown, Eleanor Clark, Sacha Fairweather, Marcus Gamble, Ellie Garrigan Mattar, Georgia Hall, Carl Haller, Wilfred Lamont, Asha Levy, Francesca Lovell-Read, Jared Martin, Harmony Matheson, Kelly McClinton, Ella McLoughlin, Gregory Middleton, Camilo Mosquera, Jana Nedelkoska, Oscar Patton, Lukas Ruediger

Livestream Technicians
Sebastian Dows-Miller, Joseph Clarke, Finn Emmens-Green, Mattie Sutton, Hope Clarke, Antonia Johnson, Emily Slade

Pastoral Assistant
William Allen

Verger
Jen Crompton

Chapel Office & Choir Manager
Lizzie Casey